Special Issue
Valuing Modeling & Simulation for Medical Training: Technologies, Tools and Analytical Approaches for Assessing Design and Development Tradeoffs

Introduction
The military medical community faces a wide range of challenges to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of current health services and medical procedures' training from the medical corpsmen level to the emergency and trauma room nurses and doctor's levels. One approach that is gaining increasing popularity to ensure that all military medicine providers are able to stay current on medical knowledge - in light of rapidly evolving information, and the increasing pressure to move away from animal models- is the application of modeling and simulation technologies to medical training. Numerous studies speak to the potential of M&S based technologies for enhancing training. Nevertheless, there remains a lack of guidance on how to build systems that best support training specific skill sets, leading to an ever-increasing challenge for training designers to navigate the selection of technology components to provide the right balance between individual component fidelity, performance and cost.

As might be expected, there are tradeoffs associated with finding the right balance between these variables. Since as much as 70% of a system's total cost is established during the concept refinement and design stages, which accounts for less than 30% of total lifecycle cost, these tradeoffs must be identified as early as possible in a program's lifecycle. This special issue of the Journal of Defense Modeling and Simulation will focus on technologies, tools and analytical approaches that are currently being pursued that will ultimately help decision makers arrive at the best solutions for guiding the design and development of modeling and simulation based medical training technologies.

Submissions for Full Paper Review
For manuscript formatting and other guidelines, please visit the Author Guidelines for JDMS page. Manuscripts must not have been previously published or be submitted for
publication elsewhere. Each submitted manuscript must include title, names, authors' affiliations, postal and e-mail addresses, and a list of keywords. For multiple author submission, please identify the corresponding author.

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**Important Dates**
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